

Spotlight on Volunteering

Offering your time to someone else has no age limit!

Please meet Dorothy and Shirley. Dorothy has been an RSVP Volunteer since 2016, participating in the Branford Pen Pal Project. Dorothy is a VERY active 94-year-old. Just ask Nancy Cohen from the Canoebrook Center. Dorothy is a member of the Center's Readers Theater and SALT Council (Seniors-and-Law-Enforcement-Together), participates in painting classes and has hiked ½ way up Sleeping Giant Mountain, among other things. When Dorothy saw in the RSVP newsletter that a 96-year-old woman was looking for a friendly visitor, she called and asked if she could be that visitor. Of course, the coordinator said YES!



Shirley, a WWII Veteran who served in the Marine Corps, lives with her daughter Lauri and son-in law. Lauri referred her mother to the program in hopes of finding someone willing to spend some time with her and to offer some stimulating conversation, as her days can be quite long with no social circle.

Now Shirley and Dorothy meet each Wednesday to talk, share experiences, color, paint and do word searches. This is just the beginning. They have found some common interests that have sparked memories and allowed both to laugh.

What could be better than spending time with someone who really wants to be with you, to see you smile or remember a long-stored memory? Thank you, Dorothy and Shirley, for reminding us of what is really important, TIME.